

The Historic Intracoastal Waterway

The Intracoastal Waterway is a great natural treasure — a ribbon of protected water that meanders along our southeastern coast from Norfolk in Virginia to Key West in Florida, and on around the Gulf Coast to Brownsville in Texas.

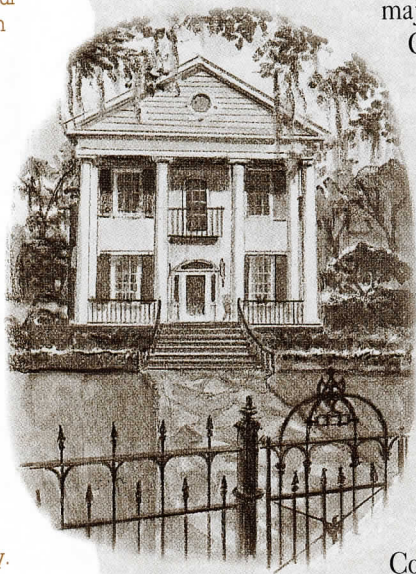
Far earlier than road or railway, telegraph or telephone, coastal settlements were linked by water. George Washington, recognizing the importance of waterways to the development of the nation, began construction of the Intracoastal Waterway's northern terminus in the 18th century.

During World War II, the importance of the Intracoastal Waterway assumed a new urgency. When the United States entered the war, German U-boats prowled within sight of our southeastern shore. By April 1942, coastal residents could see the explosions of night attacks, and billowing columns of smoke at dawn marked the sinking of another Allied ship.

After 23 vessels were sunk, our Navy began searching for a safer way to transport supplies. Almost overnight, sleepy villages along the Intracoastal Waterway — Jacksonville, Beaufort, Charleston — bustled with the activity of the "bucket brigade." Vessels small enough to navigate in shallow waters were used to transport war materials up and down the Intracoastal Waterway in stages, thereby avoiding the threat of attack in open seas.

The shallow draft of our comfortable vessel allows personal and up-close discovery of this historic and beautiful waterway.

The *Nantucket Clipper* ties up next to Old Wilmington, a restored historic district of Victorian and antebellum vintage, now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Wilmington is the major seaport of North Carolina, and has been the site of many battles and sieges, including the first armed resistance to the Stamp Act of 1765 and the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge in February 1776. During the Civil War, Wilmington was a vital Confederate seaport for blockade-running ships, and was the last Confederate port to close with the fall of nearby Fort

Fisher in April 1865. On an optional tour, you can visit Fort Fisher, where you may see the ruins of vessels that dot the shoals along the mouth of the Cape Fear River, and Bellamy Mansion, the 22-room landmark built in 1859 and commandeered by Federal troops in 1865.

Friday, April 21 NEW BERN, NC

Nestled on a peninsula at the confluence of the Neuse and Trent rivers, maritime New Bern is North Carolina's second-oldest town. Founded by Swiss and German settlers in 1710 and named for Bern, Switzerland, New Bern was a Union city in the midst of the Confederacy during the Civil War; it was captured in March 1862 and Union forces occupied the city for the rest of the war.

You may join optional tours exploring New Bern's Civil War history and Tryon Palace.

Saturday, April 22 CRUISING THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY

Cruising from New Bern en route to Norfolk, you will pass stretches of the Intracoastal Waterway that were surveyed by George Washington in 1763 and the area chosen by Sir Walter Raleigh as the site for establishing the English colonies. Enjoy the view from the comfort of the

decks of the *Nantucket Clipper* as you quietly sail along this historic waterway.

Sunday, April 23 NORFOLK

Seafaring Norfolk, located at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, is famous for its maritime heritage and continues to occupy a prominent place in naval endeavors. It is home to the world's largest shipbuilding and repair center, as well as to the U.S. Navy's Atlantic Fleet. Your full day in this historic port includes a harbor tour narrated by a harbor historian, who will entertain you with fascinating commentary about Norfolk's maritime history.

Norfolk's role in U.S. history is extensive. Occupied by Lord Dunmore during the Revolutionary War and later retaken by the Virginia militia, the city was almost destroyed in 1775 by Virginians bent on preventing further British occupation. During the War of 1812, the city was repeatedly attacked by British forces. And, during the Civil War, Union troops under General John Wool captured the city and held it for the war's duration.

You may choose to join an optional tour of Fort Monroe, or tour the Mariner's Museum, which houses an extensive collection of maritime artifacts.

Monday, April 24 RICHMOND

At the navigable head of the James River is one of the most historic cities on the Eastern Seaboard — Richmond, Virginia. The *Nantucket Clipper* will dock here early this morning, and you'll have the whole day to explore this fascinating city.

Located in an area first sighted by Captains John Smith and Christopher Newport in 1607, Richmond prospered between the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. Thomas Jefferson himself designed the central part of the state capital in 1792, iron became a major business, and railroads and canals connected the city with others upriver on the James. It was this prosperity that caused it to be chosen as the capital of the Confederacy in 1861. Under siege throughout the war, Richmond finally fell on April 2, 1865; retreating Confederate forces burned parts of the city rather than accede it whole to Union troops. It was to no avail; Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant one week later at Appomattox, and the collapse of the Confederacy quickly followed.